BENGALURU, MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2022 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 35 | Min 22 | Humidity 54% Clear with periodic clouds Sensex 57,197 | Nifty 17,171 | Gold 52,264 | Silver 66,588 | Dollar 76.48 | Euro 82.74 | GBP 98.19

Cyclists in Bengaluru want Metro to allow all bicycles inside coaches so as to boost last-mile connectivity as opposed to just foldable cycles allowed currently

MILES AND MILES OF BICYCLE SMILES

'Some foldable cycles not going through baggage scanners'

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Cyclists are hoping Metro adopts cycle racks inside coaches to boost last-mile connectivity. Metro officials, however, said existing provisions are underutilised.

At the moment, commuters have to leave their cycles outside metro stations and resort to other transport after reaching their destinations.

Recently, Mumbai Metro installed bicycle racks in some coaches allowing bicycles inside. The system facilitates public transport as well as cycles to make the entire trip sustainable.

BMRCL did not highlight to BM any plans to integrate cycle stands in their coaches. It felt cyclists are not adequately utilising existing provisions for them due to a lack of awareness or interest.

"As we had earlier informed you, cycles are permitted inside. These should be foldable bicycles that can go through the baggage scanner. Cyclists can keep cycles behind the wheelchair area while inside the coaches and not inconvenience

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

"Foldable cycles are not affordable. Metro should consider last-mile cycling as an extension of service and invest in it.

— Sathya Sankaran, Bicycle Mayor

Lost rivers of Bengaluru

'Objective of map to bring perspective on use and abuse of rivers'

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A group of researchers from the city has mapped rivers of Bengaluru which include the Vrishabhavathi, Arkavathi, Dakshina Pinakini, Chinnar, Suvarnamukhi, Cauvery and Netravathi rivers. Not many are aware of these rivers, the experts pointed out, as most of these rivers are polluted, depleted or even converted into drains.

The map has Bengaluru district and its five taluks including Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) area at the centre. The data points from the map indicate the rivers' origin, length, elevation, ground water status, past and present drinking lifelines of Bengaluru, alongside the downward and upward movement of water and even the hydrology and administrative boundaries.

The experts from Paani Earth, Dr Nidhi Paliwal, Nirmala Gowda and Madhuri Mandava in their study stated the objective of the map was to bring perspective on the use and abuse of rivers. Waste flows in natural river corridors without exception and water in man-made pipelines. Both devoid of life, flow in opposite directions. The situation is especially stark for the rivers passing through the district, the Vrishabhavathi, Arkavathi, Dakshina Pinakini, Chinnar

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Laugh the night out

Immerse in magic and comedy with Anubhav Singh Bassi as he narrates his life choices and struggles of trying to think out of the box.
When: Till May 8; Register: bookmyshow.com

02 Bond over writing

Been wanting to brush up on your writing skills? Beloved author Ruskin Bond is hosting a writing workshop on Unlu that will guide through the basics of writing. The 23-lesson course will have each session for 2 hours 30 minutes and participants will get their credentials two hours prior to the workshop. **Where: UNLU website When: April 29 onwards; Register: Rs 999, bookmyshow.com**

03 It's clay time, folks

Attend a trial workshop or sign up for a nine-session-long pottery class to learn how to handle a potter's wheel and mould beautiful ceramic and clay pieces. This is just the therapeutic hobby for you if you're an artsy soul.
When: Ongoing; Where: Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar Cost: Rs 1,400; Register: bookmyshow.com

Bommai to issue new covid advisories soon

With number of cases rising slowly Prime Minister will discuss precautionary measures for fourth wave with chief ministers of all states on April 27

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With the number of covid cases in Bengaluru rising slowly in the last few days, chief minister Basavaraj Bommai said specific instructions may be issued after a video conference with the prime minister. The video conference is being held by prime minister Narendra Modi with chief ministers of the states on April 27 to discuss precautions to tackle a fourth wave of covid, Bommai said.

"The Union government has already issued an alert. A slight increase in cases has been recorded in Kerala and Maharashtra in the last eight to 10 days. Based on the experience from the last three waves, experts too have suggested suitable precautionary measures. The Health minister has also issued a few instructions. Clear instructions will be issued for covid management in the state after the video conference with the prime minister," he said.

Further he said it is important to be careful as the second wave too had started slowly at first.

Health experts are demanding speeding up of the process of vaccination for children in the age group of 5-11.

"Corbevax is being manufactured by Hyderabad-based firm Biological E in collaboration with Texas Children's Hospital at Baylor College of Medicine, USA. It is not expected to be harmful...," said Dr Manu Chaudary, Consultant, Pediatrics and Infectious Diseases, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Marathahalli.

He added: Phase two and three clinical trials are going on with 15,350 participants, including children as young as six months. According to the company it is more than 90 per cent effective against covid variants as per the data collected so far, he said. The vaccine is already being given to 12 years and older in the country, he said.

"No major side effects have been documented. It will be done 28 days apart as a two-dose series," he said.

Dr Lini Balakrishnan, Consultant, Paediatrician, Motherhood Hospitals, Sarjapur, said the recommendation of the drug regulator's expert panel to grant emergency use of Corbevax for kids between 5 to 11 years of age is a welcome move.

"It will help in the expansion of vaccination coverage as the age limit will be lowered, helping in reduction of hospitalisations, long term risks and spread of virus. Now that the schools will be reopening soon children who have not been vaccinated yet will be exposed. There has also been the fear of resurgence of cases in several states. As the last two years have shown us, the virus is not going away anytime soon. There is still a lot of uncertainty and we do not know what the long-term complications of the disease will be. The sooner most of the population is vaccinated, the better...," she said.

Children between 12-14 years are now eligible for vaccination against covid-19

> **"When the approval gets through it is highly recommended that parents get their children vaccinated**
> – Dr Lini Balakrishnan, Motherhood Hospitals

Health experts said vaccinating children will also ensure they do not spread the virus to other family members. The vaccination for children below 12 has already begun in many countries in the west. So far, there have not been any concerns and Covid vaccines seem perfectly safe for young kids. "When the approval gets through it is highly recommended that parents get their children vaccinated. The side effects of vaccination will be minor and like what adults experience," Balakrishnan added.

Dip in covid testing

Covid cases dipped slightly on Sunday due to low testing. Karnataka reported 60 fresh cases without any casualtie. Out of 60, 57 were from Bengaluru and Chitradurga, Dharwad and Vijayapura reported one case each. The test positivity rate for the state dipped from one to 0.72 per cent. However, in Bengaluru, the TPR went up from 2.23 to 2.27 per cent

Happy holidays; Singapore, Thailand relax need for testing

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Every year, during summer vacation, many Bengalureans opt to travel internationally and vaccinations abroad. However, many were forced to stay indoors the last two years due to covid. With a fall in the numer covid cases, international travel has gained popularity again. A few countries have also relaxed the need to show covid test results before departure and on arrival. This will help flyers save money they would spend on multiple tests.

Singapore and Thailand have relaxed the need for RT PCR tests which had been a hassle, increasing expenses, for tourists. The relaxation in Thailand will become effective on May 1 and Singapore has announced that there will be no pre-departure covid test to enter the country for vaccinated travellers April 26 onwards. This may save additional costs of around Rs 2,600. UAE had already lifted the restrictions. However, Malaysia continues to insist on pre-departure tests and testing on arrival for tourists. The country has also tightened Visa rules; people have to submit bank statements during the application process. According to travel operators this is the time most leisure flyers travel to South East Asia for summer holidays. Malaysia must reconsider their Visa rules as the new measures will delay Visas.

One way tickets to Bangkok will cost at least Rs 14,500 May 1 onwards after relaxation of RT-PCR testing

Travel operators said many had to cancel flights and hotels after they tested positive in the domestic airport before departure. They had to spend money to stay in a hotel for quarantine if they tested positive on arrival at the international airport too. Meanwhile, the air fares are slowly inching back to the pre-covid rates. The one way fare from Bengaluru to Bangkok will cost at least Rs 14,500, May 1 onwards. Tickets to Singapore will cost at least Rs 9,300 May 2 onwards and Kuala Lumpur tickets will cost at least Rs 9,600.

Welcome to the dark side

As dysfunctional streetlights throw city roads into darkness, pedestrians are in despair

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Streetlights in many areas are not maintained forcing people, especially women, to negotiate a dangerous time on the roads

When it comes to the city's infrastructure, many of the promises remain on paper. One such promise is to keep the city illuminated at night times with LED lights. Forget about LED lights, most of the street lights are not maintained properly. As a result, most of the city remains under the cover of darkness. Many netizens have taken to social media to say that Bengaluru is among the worst cities when it comes to street illumination.

Devika R, a techie said, "After a hiatus of two years, now most of us are back to offices. We are dependent on cabs or buses which drop at a distance from where we need to walk or wait for buses. But, most of the areas are pitch dark with hardly any streetlights. This is scary. We request the BBMP to audit such places and provide lights."

Many Bengalureans say right after the sun sets, the road becomes too dark. Dark roads can be welcome spots for crimes. Deepti K, a citizen, said, "I was coming back home after buying some things from a road in the evening. The road was dark and two people on a bike almost touched my arm and sped off. They came back. I had to call my brother and he was on the call as I walked back."

Sriparna Roy, a techie, said she has to think twice to get out alone in the night. "I have to depend on someone so that I can go out in the evening, but that is not a feasible option because my family sometimes is not free in the evening and so, I also have to postpone my work."

Many Bengalureans, especially women, say that the dark roads become a matter of concern as they often get late while returning from office.

> **We are dependent on cabs or buses which drop us at a distance from where we need to walk or wait for buses**
>
> –Devika R, techie

Ashmita Gupta, a citizen, said, "My office cab does not drop me till my home as it is a narrow lane. So, it drops me a little ahead. But even walking those few kilometres becomes risky because the road is so dark, and I have often seen unknown men sitting on the road edges. My father waits for me every day when the cab drops me off, and I walk home with him."

Bad for business

Rashika K, who runs a tea stall said, due to the lack of streetlights people have stopped coming to the shop in the evening. "This has affected my sales also. During the last few days, because of rain, the situation became worse as it used to get dark very early and no one came to the shop."

Don't name airport after me: BSY

Former Karnataka Chief Minister and senior BJP leader BS Yediyurappa on Sunday urged Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai to name the Shivamogga airport after any illustrious personality of Karnataka which will be a befitting tribute to their contribution.

In a letter to the Chief Minister, Yediyurappa said, he was thankful that the government considered his name for the airport. "However, I am of the view that naming the new airport after me is not appropriate," he said. Yediyurappa urged him to name the airport after other prominent leaders of the region. "A dream project of Shivamogga airport at Sogane village is being fulfilled now. You have inspected progress of work recently and announced the necessary funds to complete it. I am thankful for that gesture..." he wrote.

80-year-old alms seeker donates ₹1L

An 80-year-old woman, who has been seeking alms at the entrance of temples in Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts of Karnataka, has donated Rs 1 lakh to the Rajarajeshwari temple near here, temple authorities said. Ashwathamma, who belongs to Kanchagodu village near Gangolli in Kundapur taluk of Udupi district, has been begging near various temples after the death of her husband 18 years back. The woman used only a small portion of her savings for her personal expenses and the balance was deposited in a bank to be used for donations to temples and charity. She had collected Rs 1 lakh through begging for about a month in front of the Rajarajeshwari temple during its annual festival.

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KAUSHIK JN

And the games begin...

Khelo India University Games 2022 was inaugurated by Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai here on Sunday. The inauguration was followed by cultural events.

BDA better buck up now

Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout allottees claim authority's work is shoddy, slow; many are yet to get sites registered despite payments, follow-ups

Drain walls in the layout are damaged at an early stage. Inset: Close up of a wall, which has developed cracks

Many allottees of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout claimed its construction work, taken up by BDA, is substandard. Sham Jujare S, convenor of NPKL Progressive Front, wrote to BDA alleging that the quality of work executed to build the site drains in the layout is substandard.

"Knowing that BDA raised more than Rs 2,000 crore from allottees for the formation of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout, it is very disappointing to note the poor quality of work being executed... BDA has not provided adequate reinforcement steel for the drain structure. The spacing between the horizontal distribution bar is more than 15 inches and the spacing between the vertical main rods is also 15 inches."

Kamala Prasad, convenor of the front alleged, "It is noted that BDA has used low-grade cement... The durability and strength of the concrete drain wall has been impacted... Ideally BDA must provide a six-inch space between the horizontal distribution bars and a six-inch space between vertical bars so that the drain structure is well formed with longer durability. Further, BDA has not provided adequate spacing (two inches) between the two mats because the double mat is acting like a single mat and it is impacting the fitness of the drain wall."

Further, the allottees claimed that due the substandard work, they have noticed a honeycombing effect in the drain walls; these drain walls are being damaged at a very early stage before being used.

To add to the troubles of the allottees, despite years of continuous efforts, having succeeded in being allotted a BDA site and having paid the amount prescribed, some are facing difficulty registering the allotted sites due to the slow pace of BDA's work.

The authority began allotting sites during FY 2016-17. Since then BDA has allotted more than 9,000 sites. While 8,000 sites have been registered, the property owners of the remaining 1,000 sites are finding it difficult to register. They stand in a beeline at BDA regularly without any luck.

Earlier, BDA was sending letters asking people to register sites allotted before 2018 by submitting suitable documents. This has stopped for now and is causing residents trouble.

Some alleged staff members are demanding bribes for early registration. However, BDA denied it.

> **"Knowing that BDA raised more than Rs 2,000 crore from allottees for the formation of the layout, it is very disappointing to note the poor quality of work**
>
> –Sham Jujare S, convenor, NPKL Progressive Front

An allottee said, "I was allotted a site in Kempegowda Layout. I paid the money by getting the loan. But still, my plot is not registered. I have visited the authorities many times in the last two years, but they say they have no staff to deal with my issue."

Another allottee Yashodha said, "I tried 18 years to get a BDA site. Finally, I was allotted a site in Kempegowda Layout. But there is no registration yet. They are postponing registration dates and not clarifying the date of registration."

BDA is also asking some allottees to bring CDR (Correct Dimension Report) from the engineering section. But it is an internal matter of the BDA. So, people are asking why BDA is asking them when the details are available with it.

"The registration process must be completed within a week or two. If not the site may get acquired by others. CDR can be issued immediately. There were complaints of issuing the same CDR to too many people," said an allottee.

Allottees were given three years in 2018 to pay and register. Now the deadline is ending. BDA must speed up the process of registration, the allottees demanded.

—Prakash VL

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9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Path blocking
Bannerghatta Road

This traffic police booth on a new footpath near the Sagar Hospital traffic junction is obstructing the path of pedestrians.

Dumped
Halasuru

Garbage clearance is an issue on Artillery Road is Halasuru. The road is becoming a dumpster.

Hole in the road
Sunkenhalli

This pothole on 5th Main Road in Kempegowda Nagar is getting worse. BBMP must repair it.

The heat is truly on EVs

ectriVa
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VEHICLE
ARGING
STATION
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Download the ElectriVa app on Android or iOS
Open the app & scan the QR code to initiate the charging process
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With several instances of electric two-wheelers catching fire, experts said such incidents may escalate in the coming months as the mercury soars. The reason for this they say is that lithium-ion cells used by EV players in India are imported from countries like China and Korea and are not suitable for Indian climatic condition.

EV expert Rajeev YSR explained that the lithium-ion cell has a working temperature range of -20 to -50 degrees.

Pointing out that most of the recent incidents of vehicles catching fire have happened in hotter areas, Rajeev said, "When the temperature is roughly 40 – 45 degrees outside, it is possible that the temperature at the battery cells and battery pack level would easily cross 50-55 degrees and in such cases, the battery cells undergo 'thermal runway' which is when they start exploding".

Mahesh Godi, Founder and CEO of tech start-up, GODI, pointed out that there were barely any vehicles moving due to the lockdown last summer but this year as many EVs are plying on the road, such incidents may rise in the coming months. In such a scenario, he said it is important to generate awareness among users about the safe manner to handle fire incidents. Godi also said the battery pack assembly process needs to be followed meticulously.

Rajeev said if EV players have a smart battery management system they would be able to monitor the temperature of every cell in the battery pack and accordingly give inputs to the machine control unit to activate the cooling system. He said as many Indian EV entrances are trying to match their prices with internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles, they are not able to invest in smart BMS and Active cooling systems.

"Cells assembled into a battery with a mismatch in this cell's capacities will settle permanently and will be prone to thermal runaways. Also, the battery sizing needs to be appropriate as per the load conditions as abusing the battery will lead to premature failures and accidents," he added. Industry insiders also indicated that many companies, in a rush to roll out EV models, may be buying lower grade, cheaper kits from China and other markets, which could be a reason for the fire incidents.

Voluntarily recall defective vehicles: Govt to EV makers

The Centre will order companies to recall defective electric vehicles (EVs) and penalise them if they don't do so on their own, Roads, Transport and Highways minister Nitin Gadkari warned in the wake of fires involving two-wheelers that have led to fatalities. All such batches of vehicles should be recalled immediately, he said. "If any company is found negligent in their processes, a heavy penalty will be imposed and a recall of all defective vehicles will also be ordered," he tweeted on Thursday. "Several mishaps involving electric two-wheelers have come to light in the last two months. It is most unfortunate that some people have lost their lives and several have been injured in these incidents." The government has set up a panel to examine the fires, said to be related to batteries, and EV standards will soon be framed.

A file pic of an Ola scooter that caught fire in Pune

Past incidents

The latest fatality involving a EV fire mishap is of a 40-year-old man, who was killed when the battery of his new electric bike exploded causing fire in his bedroom in Vijayawada in the early hours of Saturday. His wife suffered burns and was in a critical condition in hospital, police said. Their two children also suffered from asphyxiation but were stable, the police added. The incident was similar to the one that happened three days ago in Nizamabad town in neighbouring Telangana where an EV battery exploded killing an 80-year-old man. These were the two major incidents involving EV batteries in the two Telugu states, while similar mishaps were reported from other states like Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu in recent days. The detachable battery of the vehicle was kept on charging in his bedroom on Friday night and it suddenly exploded in the early hours when all were fast asleep, Suryaraopet Inspector of Police V Janaki Ramaiah said.

Incidentally government think tank Niti Aayog had two days ago come out with a draft battery swapping policy for electric vehicles and suggested incentives as well as a rigorous testing protocol for swappable batteries. —Agencies

How to make way for EV charging infrastructure

AN EXPLAINER

As EVs catch on, there is a need to understand how to create charging infrastructure. So here are the details: An EV charging network comprising many normal powered charging points is preferable to one with limited high-power charging stations. For EVs, any parking location where the vehicle is stationary, and which has access to an EV charging point, can be an opportunity to recharge the vehicle battery. This is also known as destination charging, as opposed to "on the-go charging" in which vehicles rapidly top up their battery charge to drive onwards to their destinations.

"EV charging infrastructure should be provided in locations where vehicles are parked on a regular basis, rather than carving out new locations for EV charging hubs. This approach to charging infrastructure implementation promotes a distributed network of EV charging points for users to plug into at various locations - at residences, apartment buildings, office campuses, shopping malls, metro and railway stations, bus depots, etc," according to a handbook of electric vehicle charging infrastructure implementation brought by NITI aayog.

ACCESS

EV charging points at locations must be provided where vehicles tend to park, EV users can charge their vehicles while they are parked.

POWER

A dense network of normal-power EV charging points reduces the need for high power charging points, which are more expensive and can be detrimental to battery health.

COST-EFFICIENCY

Normal power charging points are not only less expensive, but they also require less electricity and less space. They can be connected to low-voltage single- and three phase distribution networks, which are widely available.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

Lowering the upfront costs of setting up charging infrastructure reduces the need for government subsidies and improves the viability of private sector participation in charging operations.

CLASSIFICATION

There are two types of charging; The first one is private charging which can have a dedicated charging for personal EV or EV fleet owned by one entity. It is suitable for homes and dedicated parking spots. The other type of charging is semi public charging which will be beneficial for shared charging for a restricted set of EV users. This can be helpful at gated communities, shopping malls, hospitals, universities etc. —BMB

Technology Development Board
Department of Science & Technology
Block-II, 2nd Floor,Technology Bhawan,
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VACANCY NOTICE

Applications are invited from Indian citizens for the following positions on contract basis for a period of three years:

Sr. No	Designation	Number of Positions
1.	Chartered Accountant	1

DST and TDB websites (www.dst.gov.in and www.tdb.gov.in) may be referred for detailed vacancy notice along with qualifications, experience, consolidated emoluments per month, age limit, eligibility criteria application format and other terms and conditions etc.

Last date of receipt of application is **10th June, 2022 5:00 PM**

Any update/corrigendum/addendum etc. will be uploaded on the TDB official website only, hence, candidates are advised to visit TDB's official website regularly.

Under Secretary, TDB

davp 36106/12/0003/2223

Karnataka has 3rd highest HIV cases in country

Latest numbers reveal that Karnataka stands third in the country in terms of HIV transmission with 2,12,982 people infected in the last 10 years. The table is led by Andhra Pradesh which has recorded the highest number of such cases of HIV transmission at 3,18,814 followed by Maharashtra at 2,84,577, Tamil Nadu at 1,16,536, Uttar Pradesh at 1,10,911 and Gujarat at 87,440 cases.

Over 17 lakh people contracted HIV in the country in the last 10 years due to unprotected intercourse, according to the data provided by National AIDS Control Organisation in response to an RTI query. However, the number of people contracting HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) in the last 10 years has come down significantly. HIV transmission by unprotected sex was recorded in 2.4 lakh people in 2011-12, while the number reduced to 85,268 in 2020-21. In response to the RTI query filed by activist Chandra Shekhar Gaur, the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) stated that 17,08,777 people contracted HIV by unprotected sex between 2011-2021 in India.

Also, 15,782 people contracted HIV by transmission through blood and blood products from 2011-12 to 2020-21, and 4,423 contracted the disease by mother to child transmission according to 18 month antibody testing data. Among all states and Union territories, a consistent decline in cases of transmission of HIV was seen, the data said. As of 2020, there are 23,18,737 people living with HIV, including 81,430 children, in the country.

HIV has no effective treatment. However, it can be managed with proper medical care. On the declining trend in the transmission cases of HIV, health expert Prabhat Ranjan Sinha said due to the covid-19 pandemic and lockdown restrictions, HIV detection has been low in the country for the past two years. "Now that Covid has passed us by, the number of HIV patients is likely to rise. If a person tests positive for HIV, he should begin antiretroviral therapy (ART) as soon as possible," he added.

BMB + Agencies

'Allow all bicycles inside Metro'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

other passengers. Previously, people had used this facility but now there are few takers. We also have bicycle racks installed at all metro stations to encourage cyclists but there is hardly any utilisation," BMRCL chief public relations officer Yashwanth Chavan told BM.

However, cyclists are of the view that Metro is not aware of the multiple issues faced by them while making use of the aforementioned facilities.

"I had to stop using foldable cycles as some did not fit the baggage scanner. The baggage scanner in stations is of varying standards. Cycles go through in some stations but are rejected at some. Foldable cycles come in varying sizes too. Scanner sizes should be altered as per standard market sizes of foldable cycles. We suggest that guards use hand scanners to scan cycles. Sometimes the security staff are not aware of these provisions and instantly discourage cyclists from bringing cycles into stations. It will be permitted in only some stations and each time they have to verify with the head of security for confirmation, making it a time-consuming process. Metro should provide a notification to all its security staff about permitting cycles. There is also a need for better signages for the wheelchair areas within the coaches as cyclists cannot scurry inside the coaches looking for a spot," said Bengaluru Bicycle Mayor Sathya Sankaran.

He added "Cyclists are not aware that there are cycle stands at

all the metro stations. In my last consultation with the MD, he informed me that they can consider stations in the outskirts for setting up cycle racks. If cycle racks are available at all stations now and marked clearly, there is a need to create awareness about this in the cycling community. Metro should also try to provide information on the number of cycle stands available in each station. They should put ample signages in stations to direct cyclists toward parking."

A cyclist from Kanakapura road had similar complaints. "Roughly two years ago when I used to cycle to the metro station, there was a lot of confusion about foldable bicycles. Unless the security guards are adequately informed about rules, it becomes challenging for cyclists. The scanners are built to pass luggage; foldable cycles are not small enough to pass through," said cyclist, Rajeev Malagi.

Commenting on the Mumbai Metro model, Sankaran said that the best way to encourage cyclists would be to provide proper cycle racks inside coaches.

"There have been complaints of Bengaluru and Delhi footfalls being high but if feasible, the implementation would greatly benefit cyclists. Today the public bicycle sharing services are shutting down due to a lack of users. The foldable bicycles are not affordable to many. Metro should consider last-mile cycling as an extension of their service and invest in it."

Saving Bengaluru's lifelines

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and Suvarnamukhi, as the water bodies are already converted into sewage drains. Cauvery, the current drinking water source, is not spared either. Heavily polluted and altered, the river is in a dire state.

For instance, from representation of the map, it is showcased that the Arkavathi River which is 172-km long, originates in Nandi Hill ranges, and flows down to Hessaraghatta and then towards Chamarajasagara connecting to the Manchanabele Minor Forest, and then towards Ramanagara linking to the Cauvery river.

Dr Nidhi Paliwal, one of the founders of Paani Earth and trustee of Bangalore Environment Trust said: "Presently Hessaraghatta is dry or filled with waste and is abandoned as a drinking source. Even the Chamarajasagara is filled with waste carried by Arkavathi and is abandoned as a drinking water source. After Manchanabele, there is a polluted stretch which goes through Ramanagara town and towards Kanakapura. The Central Pollution Control Board has identified it as a polluted stretch. This area is frothing. From there it connects to the proposed Mekedatu Dam and then to the Cauvery."

Dr Paliwal pointed out that the waste water generated is high due to unplanned urbanisation. "Peenya industrial area, one of the biggest of its kind, is located where Vrishabhavathi River begins; the industries are dumping their waste into it. Other countries would try to save the river. There is a policy of water use and reuse which is not being followed. Our effort through the map is to recognise the resources around and manage it. We have left the sewage line in the stormwater drain. No sewage should be let into the stormwater drain. The water is not being treated and released. The water here goes to the drinking source, which have become carriers of Bengaluru waste," said Dr Paliwal.

THE SO CALLED RAJA KALUVES/STORM WATER DRAINS ARE ACTUALLY STREAMS, THAT FEED THE RIVER. TODAY THEY ARE CONCRETIZED AND HAVE BECOME CARRIERS OF BENGALURU'S WASTE.
IN THE EAST: WASTE IS RETURNED TO DAKSHINA PINAKINI RIVER,WHICH FLOWS DOWN TO TAMIL NADU

Many do not even know the existence of the Chinnar River which is 45 km in length. The Chinnar is a tributary of Dakshina Pinakini river, which is 426-km long and flows to Tamil Nadu.

Many do not even know the existence of the Chinnar River which is 45 km in length. The Chinnar is a tributary of Dakshina Pinakini river, which is 426-km long and flows to Tamil Nadu. Even Dakshina Pinakini is frothing.

"The rivers have to nourish us. We are abusing our surface water and exploiting ground water. Through the study of five years, we have come out with the data. We have abused the rivers and we need to save them. If we go back to history, we see all civilisations flourished around rivers. Civilisations were wiped out, as many rivers vanished. And in years ahead these rivers will undergo further depletion and future generations will face the brunt," she said.

While the common man is definitely affected with the rivers carrying polluted water, the wildlife is equally affected by it, as many rivers carry the water to nearby forests; the forest flora and fauna are dependent on the same water.

The researchers gathered data for the map from different government records and through the Karnataka State Remote Sensing Application Centre. They also referred to Survey of India topo sheets amongst other sources.

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, JAYARAM HALLIMALA SATHYANARAYANA RAO alias JAYARAM H S, R/o SREEDA PRIDE APARTMENT, C301, JAIL ROAD OWNERS COURT LAYOUT ROAD, KASAVANAHALLI, JUNNASANDRA, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA – 560035 have changed my name as JAYARAM HALLIMALA SRINIVASA RAO, vide affidavit dated 23.04.2022, sworn before notary Rajanna S.M, Bengaluru.

I, Shasikiran Nagaraj alias Shasi Kiran N alias N Shasi Kiran S/o Nagaraj, R/o: 96/8, Pazhaiya Kovil Land Colony, Hosur- 635109, changed my name to Sasikiran Nagaraj for all purposes.

I, LAVANYA BOLLIPALLI, W/o MURALI MALLA, R/o NO. 302, SJ EAST BREEZE, VINAYAK NAGAR, HAGDUR, WHITEFIELD, BENGALURU - 560066, KARNATAKA, have changed my name as LAVANYA MALLA, vide affidavit dated 23.04.2022, sworn before notary Rajanna S. M, Bengaluru.

GET NOTICED

Vicarious acquired
Alphabet's robotics firm Intrinsic is acquiring Vicarious, a robotics firm & Robots-as-a-Service (RaaS) leader

BangaloreMirror | 7
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'Bleed us dry': First simmer, then boil

Why tech platforms are facing rebellions

When Jak found online marketplace Etsy, it seemed like the perfect match: a tech platform for small traders to sell handmade items that could be a creative outlet and bring tidy profits. Five years later, Jak is one of thousands in open rebellion against the place they once saw as a safe haven — part of a growing trend of users rising up against tech platforms.

"We were lured in with the 'shop small' slogans and low fees and useful marketplace, and then once everyone had built their stores up, they started to tighten their grip and bleed us dry," said the 30-year-old, who runs an online shop from Glasgow.

New York-based Etsy, which boasts sales of $5 billion a year, drew fury for hiking the fees it charges its small traders. More than 10,000 of its sellers closed their shops for a week from April 11. It came weeks after users of video-sharing platform Vimeo expressed outrage at a similar price hike, and users of social media platform OnlyFans forced the owners to abandon a proposal to ban explicit content. Amazon has had countless battles with its sellers -- a survey in Germany concluded almost 80% were unhappy with their relationship with the e-commerce giant. And Uber faces frequent unrest -- Indian drivers are currently refusing to turn on air-conditioning in protest at spiralling fuel prices and low fares.

"We're entering a period of revolt and rebellion now," said Vili Lehdonvirta, a professor from Oxford University who tackles the power of tech platforms in a forthcoming book "Cloud Empires".

While he reckons many of the rebellions have a limited chance of short-term success, long-term outlook is not a foregone conclusion.

The breaking point for Etsy sellers was a letter from the firm announcing the platform would take a 6.5% cut on each sale instead of five percent.

The rationale, according to the firm, was to invest in marketing and entice more buyers.

> **"Then they become too dominant. We end up in a situation where they are the de facto rulers of online commerce and now they're starting to turn on their people — like all autocrats throughout history**

Kristi Cassidy, who sells clothes from Rhode Island in the United States, spearheaded the campaign to overhaul the new policy.

"Rather than rewarding the sellers whose hard work has enabled Etsy to become one of the most profitable tech companies in the world, Etsy gouges us, ignores us and patronises us," she wrote in an online petition. Etsy boss Josh Silverman told the Wall Street Journal recently that the firm was always listening to its sellers and made changes to benefit them.

Lehdonvirta has seen this pattern before, particularly with Amazon and eBay. Tech platforms create walled gardens where buyers and sellers are protected from cybercriminals and fraudsters, and standards of quality are guaranteed. Then they become too dominant. "We end up in a situation where they are the de facto rulers of online commerce and now they're starting to turn on their people," he said.

Labour market specialist Werner Eichhorst of German think tank IZA said tech firms like Etsy, Uber and food-delivery outfits operated "highly ambiguous" systems that allowed "complete ownership and surveillance power over their clients". Both analysts, though, said that those who rely on platforms for livelihood could be victorious by joining together in cooperatives or establishing different platforms.

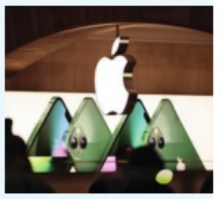
"They can get away with slowly boiling a frog, but if there is a perceived transgression of norms, something is done that is just so egregious, then people rise up," said Lehdonvirta. Eichhorst also reached for a bleak animal metaphor: "You can't milk the cows and at the same time kill them." **AFP**

BITS & BYTES

TIME'S UP FOR OUTDATED APPS

Tech giant Apple is likely cracking down on apps that no longer receive updates.

In an email sent to affected developers titled "App Improvement Notice", Apple warned it will remove apps from the App Store that haven't been "updated in a significant amount of time" and gives developers just 30 days to update them, reports The Verge. "You can keep this app available for new users to discover and download from the App Store by submitting an update for review in 30 days," the tech giant wrote.



"If no update is submitted in 30 days, the app will be removed from sale," it added. While Apple will remove the outdated apps from the App Store, any previously downloaded apps will remain on users' devices. A number of app makers, like Protopop Games developer Robert Kabwe, have expressed their concerns about the change. **IANS**

FROM IIT: A-ONE PROPULSION SYSTEMS

Scientists at a Mumbai-based start-up are working on technologies to offer efficient propulsion systems and refuelling satellites in outer space to extend their lifespan.

Manastu Space, a five-year-old start-up launched by two IIT-Bombay alumni Tushar Jadhav and Ashtesh Kumar, has come up with a propulsion system for satellites that utilises affordable, "green" fuel as opposed to the conventional propellant, which is carcinogenic.

"The current fuel – hydrazine – is toxic and carcinogenic. We have developed a propellant using hydrogen peroxide, which is easily available and put some proprietary additives to improve its performance," Jadhav, the chief executive officer of Manastu Space, told PTI.

"Our fuel is as safe as common salt in terms of toxicity and 50 per cent more efficient," he said, adding, the propulsion systems developed by the firm were 20 per cent more agile than those currently in use. **PTI**

Tech that! Internet giants stare at fine times

TECH giants who operate Facebook, Instagram and YouTube now face hefty fines if they fail to remove harmful content under new EU laws.

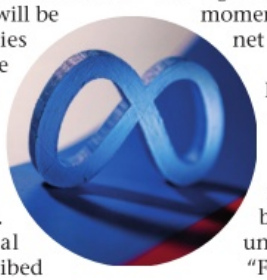
Large tech companies must do more to police illegal content on their social media platforms under the Digital Services Act.

New rules ban targeted advertising aimed at children or based on sensitive data including religion, gender, race or political leaning.

Companies violating the rules face fines of up to 6% of their global turnover - meaning the penalties could run to billions of euros.

Repeated breaches could also see companies banned from doing business in the EU. The agreement came after 16 hours of negotiations and is part of the European Commission's effort to rein in Google, Amazon, Meta and other tech giants.

A yearly fee of up to 0.01% of worldwide net income will be levied on the companies themselves to cover the costs of monitoring their compliance.



This could bring in revenue of between € 20million and €30million annually for the EU. Amnesty International Ireland last night described the agreement as a "watershed moment" in the history of internet regulation.

Spokeswoman Claudia Prettner said: "The DSA moves us towards an online world that better respects our human rights by putting the brakes on Big Tech's unchecked power.

"For too long, our most intimate data has been weaponised to undermine our right to privacy, amplify disinformation, fuel racism, and even influence our beliefs.

"The DSA will finally protect EU citizens from intrusive data harvesting and ads that use personal information - such as religious beliefs, political opinion or sexual preferences - in ways we would have never expected or wanted. "It is a missed opportunity that the DSA did not go further and phase out all invasive surveillance-based advertising..."

—Daily Mirror

ELSEWHERE INDIA

Crane used to break ATM

#SANGLI

In a shocking incident, a crane was used to steal an ATM in Sangli district of Maharashtra. According to a Mirror Now report, the entire incident was caught on camera where the crane was used to dig out the entire machine. Of late, ATM machines have become the target of thieves who prefer to take away ATM and run away with money. There have been many instances where ATMs are being stolen with gas cutters. The thieves would take away the ATM machine to a distance and then throw the machine and run away with cash.

IIM directors' to retire at 70

#AHMEDABAD

The Centre has extended retirement age for Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) directors by five years to 70 years, on a par with that in Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) and universities, nearly six years after US-based academic Sushil Vachani had to leave in midterm as IIM Bangalore director due to the retirement age of 65 years. An April 7 notification issued by the Union education ministry has allowed for amending the 2018 Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Rules for the purpose. The idea is to enable directors to steer institutes longer and ensure greater stability in the administration.

— ET Bureau

GST Council has not sought states' views

No plan to shift over half items to highest tax GST slab of 28%: Sources

#NEW DELHI

The GST Council has not sought views from states on hiking tax rates, sources said on Sunday.

They said that the panel of ministers looking into GST rate rationalisation is yet to submit its report to the GST Council.

Stating that views have not been sought from states on hiking rates on 143 items, sources said, there is also no proposal to shift more than half of items to the highest tax GST slab of 28 per cent.

The Council had last year set up a panel of state ministers, headed by Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, to suggest ways to augment revenue by rationalising tax rates.

Shoppers crowd Sadar Bazaar in Delhi

Congress slams Centre

The Congress on Sunday hit out the Centre over a reported proposal of rate rationalisation under the GST regime to bolster revenues, alleging that the government was acting in a "deceitful, dubious and dissembling" manner with the people, especially the middle class.

The attack by the Congress came over a media report which said that as part of a proposed rate rationalisation under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime to bolster revenues, the GST Council, the governing body for the indirect tax regime, has sought views of states for hiking rates on 143 items.

Of these 143 items, 92 per cent are proposed to be shifted from the 18 per cent tax slab to the top 28 per cent slab, the report said.

Hitting out at the government over the issue, Congress spokesperson Abhishek Manu Singhvi said something like this hits the common man who is crushed and it hits the middle class which is frequently forgotten by everyone.

"Don't forget these are 92 per cent of a large list of 143 items and these items include jaggery, 'papad', handbags, suitcases, colour TV sets below 32 inches, walnuts, chewing gum, chocolates and custard powder. I do not see any method in the madness. I dont see any logic and rationale to jump these into the highest categories," the Congress leader said.

– PTI

Prashant Kishor holds talks with KCR over 2 days

#Patna

Amid speculation about Prashant Kishor joining the Congress, the election strategist held talks with ruling TRS president and Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao here over two days. There has been no official word from TRS on Kishor's discussions with Rao but party sources said Kishor, who met Rao on Saturday, continued the talks on Sunday as well.

While the contemporary political situation in the country was discussed in the talks, Kishor is understood to have submitted the details of the surveys done by his team in Telangana. Kishor's meeting with Rao assumes significance in view of the speculation over the political strategist joining the Congress.

Rao, who is popularly known as KCR, said in March that Kishor is working with him on bringing a 'parivartan' (change) in the entire country. Both were working together in Telangana also.

Rao had described Kishor as his best friend for the last seven-eight years and praised the latter for his commitment to a cause.

– PTI

India suspends tourist visas issued to Chinese nationals: IATA

#Montreal (Canada)

India has suspended tourist visas issued to Chinese nationals, International Air Transport Association (IATA) said in a circular for its members.

IATA issued a circular on Wednesday for its member carriers regarding entry into India and said, "Tourist visas issued to nationals of China (People's Republic) are no longer valid."

It further reads that the nationals of Bhutan, India, Maldives and Nepal, passengers with a residence permit issued by India, passengers with visas or e-visa issued by India are allowed to enter India.

According to the circular, passengers with an overseas citizen of India card or booklet like those who have a Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) card and those with a diplomatic passport are also allowed to enter India.

The IATA also said that tourist visas with a validity of 10 years are no longer valid.

The IATA is a global airlines body with around 290 members that comprise more than 80 per cent of global air traffic.

Passengers with OIC of PIO cards can enter the country

India has been raising with China the problems of Indian students studying in China who have not been allowed to return to that country citing COVID-19 restrictions.

After talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar hoped that China will take a non-discriminatory approach to the issue since it involves the future of many young people.

"I also took up strongly the predicament of Indian students studying in China who haven't been allowed to return citing COVID restrictions. We hope China will take a non-discriminatory approach since it involves the future of many young people," Jaishankar said.

These students had to leave their studies in China and come to India when the Covid-19 pandemic began at the beginning of 2020.

– ANI

Lakhimpur: Ashish Mishra surrenders

#Lakhimpur Kheri

Union Minister Ajay Mishra's son Ashish Mishra, an accused in the Lakhimpur Kheri violence case, surrendered before the magistrate at the district jail on Sunday.

The accused surrendered a week after Supreme Court cancelled his bail and asked him to surrender in a week.

The top court set aside the Allahabad High Court order dated February 10, 2022, and remit the matter back to the High Court. It said that the order of the Allahabad High Court cannot be sustained and has to be set aside and bail bonds of the respondent/accused are cancelled. The Court clarified that it has not expressed any opinion either on facts or merits, and said that "all questions of law are left open for the High Court to consider and decide."

Eight people, including four farmers, were killed in the Lakhimpur Kheri violence on October 3, 2021. Mishra allegedly ran over the farmers who were protesting against the Centre's three farm Laws. He was arrested on October 9 and granted bail in February 2022. Family members of the victims of the Lakhimpur incident moved the Supreme Court challenging the Allahabad HC order, which granted bail to Ashish Mishra.

– ANI

Ashish Mishra, accused in the Lakhimpur Kheri violence case, being taken to custody

HEALTH TIP: Dates are packed with healthy fibres which can help in treating constipation

Mangoes are rich in fibre and help keep the digestive tract working efficiently and aid digestiion

Get a skincare high

Hemp is quickly becoming one of the most popular ingredients in beauty products; what's the craze about?

Ria Bhatia
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

If you're a beauty enthusiast, chances are, you have tried hemp in skincare. If not, keep reading to know why you must. Packed with an effective plethora of nutrients like vitamins and fatty acids, hemp sets your skin on a path to better health.

"In recent years, hemp has become increasingly popular in the beauty industry and for good reason. It boasts a variety of benefits for the skin, scalp and hair," says Megha Asher, COO & Co-founder, Juicy Chemistry.

"It's a source of good fatty acids. It helps repair damaged skin barriers and promotes skin recovery from environmental irritants as well as wear and tear due to lifestyle," says Antara Kundu, Deputy General Manager, Asia South, Marketing, Brand & Customer Acquisition at The Body Shop.

Hemp is versatile and offers something for every skin type. "It is helpful in dry skin conditions, inflammatory skin conditions, skin sensitivity, acne and skin including acne-prone and sensitive skin," explains Yash Kotak, Co-founder, Boheco.

Hemp and wellness

"Hemp is considered as one of the world's best superfoods due to its dense nutrition profile," says Loveena Sirohi, Co-founder and Director, India Hemp Organics.

"The health benefits of hemp are multifarious, ancient and effective. It is listed in our own Atharvaveda as one of the five sacred plants. Each hemp seed contains a wholesome nutritional profile with a wide array of nutrients such as protein, omegas, vitamins, minerals, antioxidants, to name a few, making it a go-to source for our fast-paced lifestyles," shares Kotak.

"On the medical side, you can use hemp-derived cannabinoids such as CBD to battle stress, sleep disorders, chronic pain, menstrual pain, side-effects of chemotherapy, etc," reveals Sirohi.

Not just hemp oil, but the seeds are also equally beneficial: Hemp seeds are extremely rich in Oleic (Omega 9) and Linoleic (Omega 6) Fatty Acids. It contains over 30 per cent fat too

"The seeds can be consumed directly, raw or toasted, blended into yoghurts and nourish bowls, or sprinkled on top of soups, cereals, salads and toasts," cites Ashar.

Why so popular?

For years people have kept a distance from the ingredient by pointing out that it is akin to 'marijuana' and has 'immoral' associations. These perceptions neglect the bountiful goodness that hemp offers.

But today the ingredient is found in a wide range of products from shower gels to face creams. Has something changed?

"There has been a monumental change in people's perception around hemp. This is largely due to two reasons: awareness building and clearing of misconceptions around the subject of hemp and people trying hemp products first hand and owing to the efficacy of the products, more people are taking up to it," says Kotak.

"With the outburst of social and digital outburst, people have started knowing more about its benefits for beauty and wellness," says Kundu as she attributes some part of the boom to the social media-led awareness.

complications. For oily skin, hemp leaf extract regulates the production of oil and sebum via the cannabinoid receptors present in the skin. It helps improve the texture and appearance of the skin. It further assists the skin in its natural healing process, causing a shortening in the lifespan of acne breakouts. Skin ageing which is a huge concern for most, is an indirect result of inflammation. Hemp leaf extract has been identified as a potent anti-inflammatory compound which in turn makes it a great anti-ageing solution. Hemp with its restorative properties is a magic solution for all skin types

MIRRORLIGHTS

Tackle ageism at work with grace

It's time to stop casual ageism at workplaces (and otherwise) and let people grow at their own pace. Here are some ways you can make a difference at your workplace.

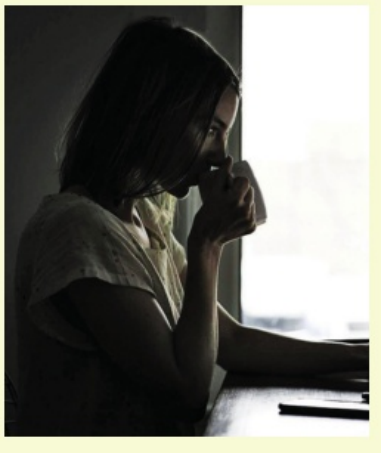
Show up every day and at least try to get things done, even if something seems daunting at first. Strive for progress instead of perfection. When people see you making a serious effort, the stereotypes that come with your age will be shattered.

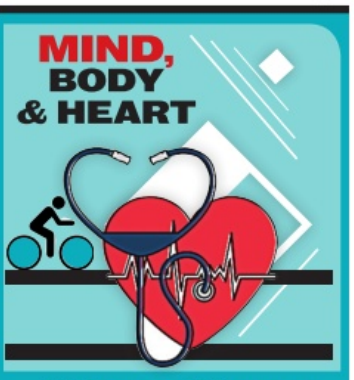
Be willing to learn new skills and constantly adapt to changes in order to remain competent. Naivety is expected out of young, inexperienced employees. The only way to break out of this image is to show maturity and shoulder responsibility.

You may be doing everything to prove your potential at work, but there could be someone who can't help but look at you through ageist lenses. Call them out while being as professional as you can. When you tolerate inappropriate behaviour, you also encourage it.

Poking fun at people's age in birthday cards or giving them ageist nicknames is common practice in workplaces and may be done in good taste. Before you throw a fit of rage and taint your reputation, try to gauge if someone means ill or they just don't know better. In case of the latter, empathise with the person and educate them instead of telling them off.

For people to see you for more than your age, you have to believe it first. Don't feel the pressure of conducting yourself in a certain manner because of your age. **– Ritu Ailani**





All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'm a man in my early forties and I've been divorced for some time. After a lot of encouragement from friends, I started online dating and met a woman I really liked. We dated for a few months and I thought it was going well, but she dumped me out of the blue one day with no real explanation.
I tried to phone her a few times, hoping I could talk to her because I hated the way it had ended, but she ignored my calls. I think I must have annoyed her because she eventually texted me, saying if I wanted a reason it was because I was boring in bed. I can't stop thinking about what she wrote and I don't have the confidence to start dating again. How do I feel good about myself again?

COLEEN SAYS

You are obsessing over this comment, but she might have just said it because it was a way of shutting things down without leading you on to hope you still had a chance with her. Maybe one of her mates said, "Tell him he's rubbish in bed and he'll stop bothering you." Even if for her you were boring in bed, it doesn't mean you'll be boring for someone else. Maybe she was looking for something specific and you weren't the right fit. Also, if she's been on a dating app for a while, she might have the attitude of, "It's not working, move on quickly". I think the lesson here is that sometimes if you keep gunning for an answer, you might hear something you don't like! But it absolutely shouldn't stop you getting back on the dating scene. Move on, but don't let it affect your confidence.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

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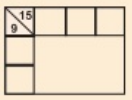
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

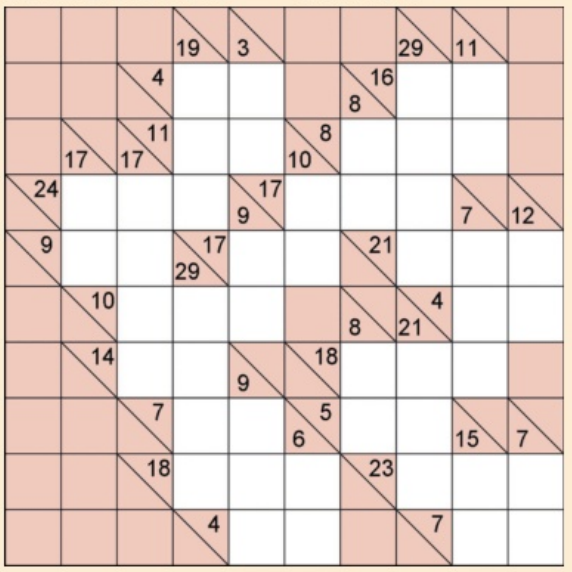
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

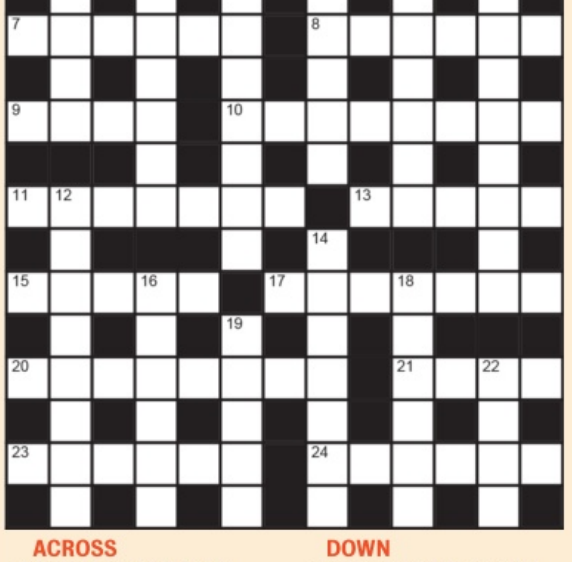


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Bruce Lee's forte? (4,2)
8 American wildcat (6)
9 Spinning toy (2-2)
10 Shared private thoughts (8)
11 Raised or hauled up (7)
13 Managed but not very successfully? (3,2)
15 Bamboo stick fencing (5)
17 Splashed about? (7)
20 Be on one's guard! (5,3)
21 A liquid measure (4)
23 Goanna or gecko (6)
24 Deserted the side (6)

DOWN

1 Japanese martial art (4)
2 Arctic abodes (6)
3 Strikes with fists (7)
4 Discovered (5)
5 Breed of sheep (6)
6 Not rigid or static, transportable? (8)
12 Overtly theatrical or histrionic (8)
14 Gets control or dominates (7)
16 Our city is located in this plateau (6)
18 Prejudiced people (6)
19 Streets (5)
22 Legal right (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: O EQUALS G

GHRUJUDRX, X: UVS JZU RA LSQSJUDXO SLLRXSRHBIM UVS TRLKB RA JXRUVSL.

Linemaro

You are so hot, a firefighter couldn't put you out

Mindchow

Golf is a game that is played on a five-inch course – the distance between your ears

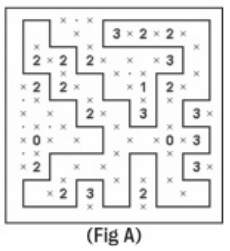
Joke of the day

Marriage is like a bar of soap. It smells delicious until you take a bite out of it

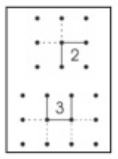
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



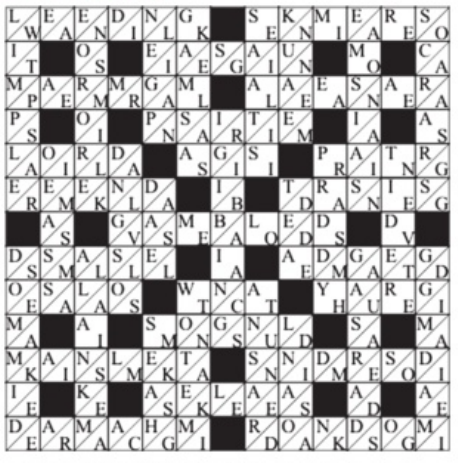
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

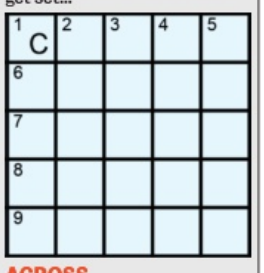
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

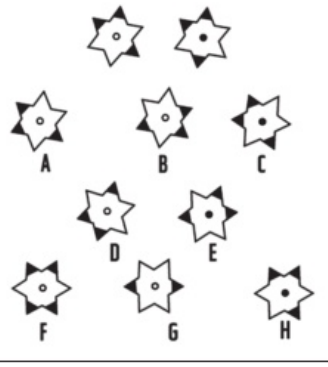
1 Teach; 6 Ova he;
7 Resit; 8 Ree ie;
9 Re Fly

DOWN

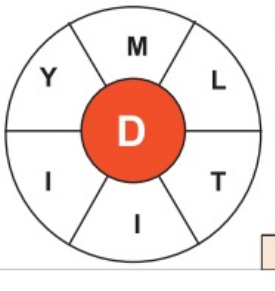
1 Fiche; 2 Helot;
3 Veery; 4 A Erie;
5 Rates

Mensapuzzle

Assuming that the two top stars are correct, which of those below are wrong?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 07 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

				3			2	
7	8			6	1			
6		1		4		8		
1						9	5	
		3	5		9	2		
	5	6						3
		8		5		4		7
			3	9			8	6
	4			8				

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 5
3 5 5 8

Medium = 18
2 4 5 6

Hard = 14
2 5 9 2

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Sign is lower. 2. Log is moved. 3. Elbow patch is different. 4. Cap is different. 5. Thumb is moved. 6. Jacket is longer.

Riddler

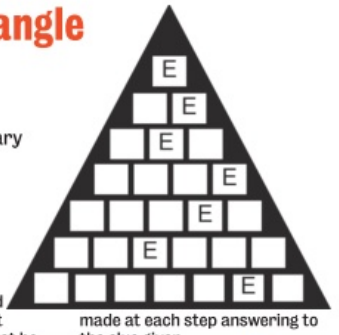
Can you unscramble the countries in Part 1 and match them with the appropriate fact about them in Part 2?

Part 1
1. HCAIN 2. GRIINAE 3. PAJNA

Part 2
1. The capital of this country is Abuja.
2. This is the world's most populous country
3. This country is associated with origami and ikebana

Alpha triangle

1 Second vowel
2 Neon symbol
3 Reading room
4 Beach sight
5 Frost contemporary
6 Chaperon
7 Unidentified



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

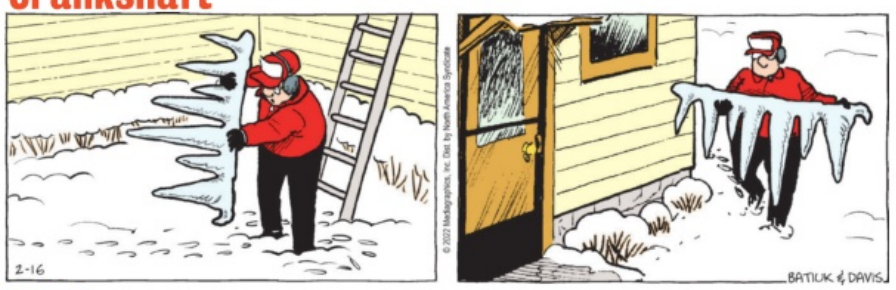
After the last time you were here, they banned epic Norse dramas.
KARAOKE
TUESDAYS 7-10 PM
Dist. by King Features
BIZARRO.COM
Wayno & PIRRO. 2-19-22

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

WHY DID YOU PUT HEART'S STORY ONLINE WITHOUT ASKING HER FIRST?
YOUR MOVE.
OH.
I GUESS I SHOULD HAVE ASKED...
I JUST WANTED HEART TO TASTE FAME!
I REMOVE YOUR MONSTER AND KILL. I WIN.
I ATTACK WITH THE GUARD. I WIN.
MY MOM ALWAYS SAYS IT'S EASIER TO ASK FOR PERMISSION LATER AND... FORGIVE NOW? SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
VERY WISE, DEAN.

Crankshaft



Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
You may be very happy. Losses may convert to profits. Your boss may be happy and appreciate your work. You may experience some changes at work, in terms of promotions. You may control opponents and hidden enemies. Love birds may make important decisions in terms of marriage with the help of relatives or friends.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
The moon is positive; your health may be good. You may visit to a religious place with your family or friends. You may plan to donate to a religious place or charity. Property-related deals may get done. You may plan for overseas travel related to work. You may also plan for higher education.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
The moon is negative. You may be a victim of conspiracies. Avoid controversies. A strong will and blessings from elders may protect you. Avoid arguments in domestic life. Avoid rash driving or adventurous tours.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
You may be busy at work and be enthusiastic. This may speed your projects up. You may be able to make quick decisions and boost your business. You may start a new innovation in a partnership. Investments in fixed assets in a partnership is not advisable.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
You are blessed by the moon and may perform well at work and earn promotions or gains. You may also plan to change your job. Your bond with seniors will be strong. Old health issues will get cured now.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
You are blessed by the moon. Things may be under control and you may enjoy at work. Your focus may be good too. This will reflect in your way of working. Your wisdom will help you to make difficult decisions in terms of profession. Past investments may pay off now.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
You may have a dull feeling and be dissatisfied. You may not enjoy your day and may become a victim of arrogance. It may affect your professional and domestic lives. You may feel a lack of confidence, which may prevent you from doing something creative at work.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
You may feel energetic and may perform efficiently at work. Your hard work may pay off now. This may boost your confidence. Property disputes with siblings may get resolved. Your meeting with an influential person may boost your network. Disputes with your partner may also be resolved.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
You're blessed by the moon; this make you happy. You'll be polite to those around you. You may make some difficult decisions for business with the help of family members. You are likely to get a big order with the help of your communication skills, which may boost business.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
You're blessed by the moon today and may enjoy good internal strength. You may enjoy at work and have romantic moments with yout spouse. You are likely to make new plans to start a new project. Perfectionism may help you to implement the plans successfully. Job seekers may find good jobs. Love birds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You may be disappointed. Control your arrogance otherwise you may face losses due to your harsh way of speaking. Love birds must be careful when discussing worthless topics.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
There may be peace in your mind. You may plan to invest capital in the business, which may boost liquidity in business. Your earnings may boost your bank balance. You may enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, which may enhance harmony in family life. Singles may find a good match. Love birds may decide to get married.

KIDZONE

Nimra Sareen, 14 Yeras, Vatican High School

P Shalini, 10 Years, Indian Public School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
56/8 + 8
= 7 + 8
= 15

BULL'S EYE
dimly, idly, mild, tidily, tidy, timid, TIMIDLY

STRIKE OUT

W	A	N	I	N	G	S	K	I	E	R	S			
I	O		E	A	G	A	N	O		C				
M	A	M	M	A	L		L	E	A	N	E	R		
P	O		P	A	R	T	E		I		A			
L	I	R	A		S	I	S		P	A	N	G		
E	M	E	N	D		B		D	A	N	E	S		
A		G	A	M	B	L	E	D		V				
S	M	A	L	L		I		E	D	G	E	D		
O	S	L	O		T	N	T		Y	U	R	I		
A	A		M	O	G	U	L		A		A			
K	I	S	M	E	T		N	I	M	R	O	D		
E	K		S	E	L	E	S		D		E			
D	R	A	C	H	M	A		R	A	N	S	O	M	

FAST FIVE

C	H	E	A	T
H	O	V	E	A
I	T	E	R	S
E	E	R	I	E
F	L	Y	E	R

RIDDLER
1. China – This is the world's most populous country,
2. Nigeria – The capital of this country is Abuja,
3. Japan – This country is associated with origami and Ikebana

QUICK

		C		N		S		S		S		N		
	L	I	Z	A	R	D		R	A	T	T	E	D	
	T		C		A		E		O		I			
W	A	T	C	H	O	U	T		G	I	L	L		
	R		E		R		S		I					
K	E	N	D	O		D	A	B	B	L	E	D		
	P					S		M			L			
H	O	I	S	T	E	D		G	O	T	B	Y		
	O		H		D		N		A					
Y	O	Y	O		C	O	N	F	I	D	E	D		
	U		L		N		U		R		V			
K	U	N	G	F	U		O	C	E	L	O	T		
J		I		P		F		M			M			

MENSA PUZZLE
F and G.

QUOTE UNCODE
Quotation, n: The act of repeating erroneously the words of another.

SUDOKU

5	4	9	7	8	6	1	3	2
2	1	7	3	9	4	5	8	6
3	6	8	1	5	2	4	9	7
9	5	6	4	2	8	7	1	3
8	7	3	5	1	9	2	6	4
1	2	4	6	7	3	9	5	8
6	3	1	2	4	5	8	7	9
7	8	2	9	6	1	3	4	5
4	9	5	8	3	7	6	2	1

ALPHA TRIANGLE
E, Ne, Den, Dune, Auden, Duenna, Unnamed.

GO FIGURE
Easy
5 – 5 + 8 – 3 = 5
Medium
5 + 6 x 2 – 4 = 18
Hard
5 – 2 + 2 + 9 = 14

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 15, Issue No 219 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018 and printed by him at Fourth Estate Ltd, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Road, Bengaluru 560099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru 560 018. Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon – responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

Asha gives delightful glimpses of Lata's life
Playback singer Asha Bhosle on Sunday regaled Prime Minister Narendra Modi and audiences with playful, oft tongue-in-cheek yet delightful insights into the life of her sister, the late Lata Mangeshkar

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Go figure

Mrunal Thakur opens up about being body-shamed

Time and again actor Mrunal Thakur has been a strong advocate of body positivity. Now, in an interview with Times Now, she recalled the time when she was trolled for her figure.

The actor added that the trolls calling her 'matka' will never stop her from being confident in her skin. Elaborating further, the actor added that she has been body shamed for her curvy figure and revealed that she was even told during briefings to 'cut down on the lower body. If I cut down -- I start losing weight from my face, then my upper body and then it would reach my lower body - I will still have that shape'.

She added, "So rather than people calling me matka and me feeling bad, I take a lot of pride in it." "First of all, it is not necessary to have a zero figure. What I feel is important is to have a fit, not an unhealthy body. Then it depends on what body type you have. We all have different body types," she stated. The 'Dhamaka' actor went on to share the compliments she received when she was in America. "When I was in the US, people said a lot of women pay to get that body. When someone called me the Indian Kardashian, I was so happy that yes we need to celebrate. And now I have the confidence to post a picture and I just want to make sure that these trolls do not affect me," she revealed.

When asked if there's a message she'd want to express to the younger generation who also struggle with body image issues, the actress shares, "I want to raise my voice because there are a lot of people, a lot of girls who have the same body type as I do. I just want to normalise and tell them that it's okay to have a pear-shaped body and wear high-waisted pants and a cropped top. "I just feel like no matter what - if you're skinny, if you're pear-shaped, if you're apple-shaped, if you're triangle-shaped - just appreciate it. We need to be comfortable in our own skin." The actor also shared that Bollywood can also do its bit to normalise real bodies. Mrunal said, "I have acne. I do PMS. There are breakouts during my menstruation. So, I think we need more actresses and public figures to talk about it and to normalise it..." —ETimes

Chiru had senti ace up his sleeve for Rajamouli

Ace director SS Rajamouli might not have cast Chiranjeevi in any of his movies so far. However, indirectly, Rajamouli played an important role in ensuring Chiru picked up his 152nd movie. Spilling beans on Rajamouli's role, Chiranjeevi said, "Whenever Rajamouli casts his characters, the actors are not allowed to act in any other movies." As Rajamouli takes years to finish his movie, other directors have to wait to cast those actors (who are in Rajamouli's movies) . This was the dilemma for director Koratala Siva who wanted to cast Chiranjeevi's son Ramcharan Tej for his movie. But, Charan was busy with RRR.

So, Chiru hatched a plan. "We had a discussion at home with Charan and Siva. I asked Siva whether he would mind casting him instead of his son." Siva was thrilled and said he had a nice story so for the mega star and can focus on the father than the son. "We thought the issue was solved. Charan was acting in RRR and I was focussing on Acharya. But, the issue was far from over. Siva came back to me saying his character has developed so well that he needs to cast Charan also in Acharya. Now, I was in a dilemma as to how to get permission from Rajamouli. I knew very well that he wouldn't accept it. In fact, many calls to Rajamouli went unanswered. This was when I decided to play a sentimental card. I finally managed to get hold of Rajamouli and told him that he has to agree to the wish of my wife Surekha whose dream is to see both father and son together on the screen. Rajamouli had no option but to agree. Siva agreed to shoot on the days when Charan got an early pass from Rajamouli," Chiru said. —Sridhar Vivan

Yami in Big shoes

From adapting the mannerism of an IPS officer to mouthing perfect dialogue in Haryanvi accent, Yami Gautam Dhar has nailed her character of Jyoti Deswal in 'Dasvi'. Director Tushar Jalota shared a behind the scene video from the movie where the actor is snapped recreating Amitabh Bachchan's style. The actress mouthed Big B's famous dialogue from December 1975, with some inspiration from her co-star Abhishek Bachchan.

"yamigautam channelling her inner Bachchan under the watchful eye of @bachchan. Trivia - Hand on the waist was Abhishek's idea !! ," the filmmaker had shared.

Yami Gautam marked her debut with 'Vicky Donor' in 2012 and over the past decade she has delivered hits like 'Badlapur' and 'Kaabil' to name a few. Speaking about her journey, Yami had told ETimes, "I feel I have just begun! When I look back at all the films, I feel as if I have just made my debut in a lot of ways. I am happy now with the kind of work that is coming my way, or that I expect myself to do. There were things that I expected myself to do back then as well, but then there can be a difference in expectations and what you get! That's life, it happens. But the good part is that I learned it and I learned it the hard way." —ETimes

Fresh look at Marilyn's life

A DOCUMENTARY on the life Marilyn Monroe is set for release on Netflix this month.

The screen siren's death aged 36 in 1962 has been subject to conspiracy theories for decades.

A trailer for The Mystery of Marilyn Monroe: The Unheard Tapes hints at the exclusive content and features haunting audio of the star herself.

The documentary - available from April 27 - promises to piece together the actor's final weeks, days and hours by bringing in unheard recordings of those who knew her best.

It has hinted it will offer a new perspective on the night of her death. —Sunday Mirror

Hrithik's got the look

Hrithik Roshan has been busy shooting for the official Hindi remake of Tamil film 'Vikram Vedha' and he has been treating fans to his suave avatar from the movie. As Vedha, the actor essays the role of a gangster in the film and he sports a sharp, salt-and-pepper look . "Calm over chaos #channelingvedha," Hrithik had captioned the picture, clicked in his vanity van. The actor's post was soon flooded with fire and heart emojis.

'Vikram Vedha' features Saif Ali Khan in the role of a police officer, while Radhika Apte and Rohit Saraf will be seen essaying pivotal parts. This film is being directed by Pushkar and Gayathri, who had called the shots for the original Tamil movie starring R Madhavan and Vijay Sethupathi. In a statement, the makers had shared, "We are delighted to be working with Hrithik and Saif – two great actors. With a superb team around us, we hope to deliver a film that will be intense and exciting." —ETimes